

Amendments to the claims:

Claims 1-8 (canceled)

Claim 9. (Currently amended) An iodine preparation composition suitable for use on wounds comprising an iodide source, held separately from an oxidant and a buffer, so that, when the iodide source, the oxidant and the buffer are combined at ~~characterized in that the iodide is held separately from the oxidant until the point of use, and that the buffer is capable of maintaining~~ would maintain the pH of the combined composition at between pH 4.5 and pH 6 ~~[[so]]~~ and that ~~when the iodide source and the oxidant are combined,~~ iodine ~~[[is]]~~ would be generated at a physiologically acceptable dose and rate.

Claim 10. (Currently amended) The iodine composition as claimed in claim 9 characterized in that the combined composition would generate ~~is capable of generating~~ from 5 μ g of iodine per g of composition per hour to 1500 μ g of iodine per g of composition per hour.

Claim 11. (Currently amended) The iodine composition as claimed in claim 10 characterized in that the combined composition would generate ~~is capable of generating~~ 100 μ g of iodine per g of composition per hour.

Claim 12. (Currently amended) The iodine composition as claimed in claim 10 formulated so that the combined composition would generate ~~to generate~~ the said levels of iodine over a period of three days.

Claim 13. (Currently amended) The iodine composition as claimed in claim 9 wherein the pH of the combined composition is maintained between about 5.4 and 5.8.

Claim 14. (Previously presented) The iodine composition as claimed in claim 9 which includes from 0.2% to 2% by weight of iodide.

Claim 15. (Previously presented) A method of treating a wound comprising applying to said wound an effective wound treating amount of an iodine preparation composition as claimed in claim 9.

Claim 16. (Previously presented) A method of treating sepsis in wounds comprising applying to said wound an effective sepsis treating amount of an iodine preparation composition as claimed in claim 9.